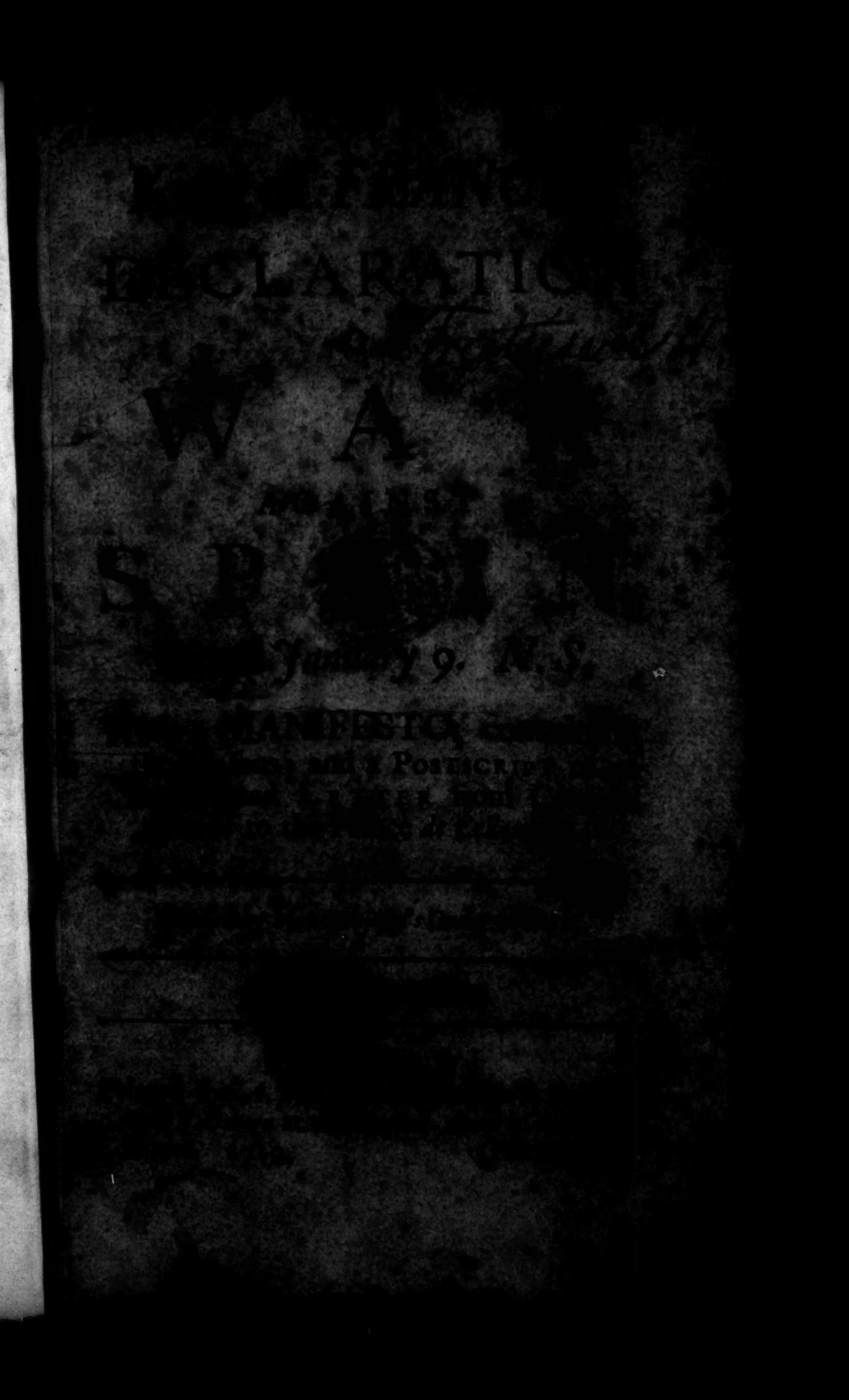

BIBLIOTECA
NACIONAL
MADRID

THE

King's Ordonance,

Bearing a

DECLARATION

OF

WAR

AGAINST

SPAIN.

the Advices he gave him in his last Moments, to look upon nothing as Glorious but *Peace* and the *Welfare of his Kingdom*; he has hitherto taken his Measures according to these Rules, which to him shall always be Sacred. His Majesty, with the Advice of the Duke of *Orleans*, Regent of the Kingdom, made it the first Object of his Care, to re-unite considerable Powers for maintaining the Peace by the Tripple-Alliance of the 4th of *January*, 1717. This Precaution, and the Neutrality establish'd in *Italy*, not only continued Peace in the Dominions neighbouring on *France*, but gave Ground to hope, that whatever was wanting to the Perfection of the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, might be supplied by new Measures for establishing a more solid Tranquility in *Europe*. But *Spain*, by violating those Treaties, destroy'd in one Moment, all Hopes of Peace, and gave us just Cause to fear the Return of a War as bloody and obstinate, as that which was concluded by the last Treaties. His Majesty has neglected nothing for extinguishing the Flame that *Spain* has kindled, but in concert with the King of *Great-Britain*, has imploy'd all his good Offices to procure an Accommodation betwixt the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, as Advantagious

tagious as Honourable for the Catholick King. His Majesty, and the King of *Great-Britain*, have not only obtain'd all that the King of *Spain* did most earnestly press the late King of *France* to obtain for him, but other and greater Advantages. But as it could not be relied on, that the King of *Spain*'s Minister would moderate the Ambition of his Projects, and that it was not just the Repose of *Europe* should depend on the Obstinacy of that Minister and his secret Views; his Majesty and the King of *Great-Britain*, could not refuse the pressing Instances made to them, to agree, (according to what has been frequently practis'd on important Occasions for the publick Welfare) that if any one of the Princes concern'd, refus'd to consent to the Peace, they should join their Forces to oblige him to it. The Emperor and the King of *Sicily* have agreed to this; but all the Measures that his Majesty and the King of *Great-Britain*, have taken separately and jointly with the King of *Spain*, not having been able to make him suspend his Enterprizes, nor to persuade him to a Peace so suitable to his Interest and Glory; his Majesty could not be wanting to the Engagements which he entred into by the Treaty of *London*, of the 2d of

August

Auguſt laſt, without doing Violation to Juſtice, and abandoning the Intereſt of his Subjects; but is oblig'd, in Conſequence of the third ſeparate Article of the ſaid Treaty, to declare War againſt the King of *Spain*; yet at the ſame time, conjuring him with the ſame Inſtances which he has long and inceſſantly made to him, not to refuſe Peace to a Nation which gave him Birth, and has generouſly ſpent her Blood and Treaſure to maintain him on the Throne of *Spain*, as he himſelf owns in his Declaration of the 9th of *November* laſt. If his Majeſty be forc'd to make his firſt War againſt him, he has at leaſt this Satisfaction, that he prefers nothing to that Prince but the Safety of his own People, if he can be ſaid to prefer it, by taking Arms, at preſent, againſt *Spain*, ſince 'tis as much for the Intereſt of that Nation as for all the other Nations of *Europe*. And to this End, his Majeſty, by the Advice of the Regent, the Duke of *Orleans*, is reſolved to make uſe of all his Forces, both by Sea and Land, under the Divine Protection, (which he implores, according to the Juſtice of his Cauſe,) to declare War againſt the King of *Spain*. And his Majeſty ordains and enjoins all his Subjects, Vaſſals, and Servants, to make

make War upon the *Spaniards*; and has and does hereby forbid them expreſly, to have any Communication, Commerce, or Correſpondence with them henceforth, on Pain of Death. In Conſequence of which, his Majeſty has by theſe Preſents, revok'd, and does revoke, all Declarations, Conventions or Exceptions, contrary hereunto: As likewiſe, all Permiſſions, Paſſports, Safe-guards, and Safe-conducts, that may have been granted by him, or by his Lieutenants General, and other Officers, contrary to theſe Preſents; and has declar'd, and does declare them Void and of no Effect and Value, forbidding any Perſon whatſoever, to have any Regard to them. His Majeſty commands and ordains the Admiral, the Mareſchals of *France*, Governors, and Lieutenant Generals for his Majeſty, in his Provinces and Armies, Mareſchals *de* Camp, Colonels, Camp-Maſters, Captains, Chiefs, and Conductors of his Soldiers, Horſe or Foot, *French* or Foreigners, and all other his Officers to whom it ſhall appertain, that each of them, reſpectively, ſee the Contents of thoſe Preſents executed, within the Extent of their Command and Juriſdiction: for ſuch is the Pleaſure of his Majeſty: who wills and ordains, That theſe Preſents

ſents be publiſh'd and affix'd in all Towns Maritime, and others, and in all Ports, Harbours, and other Places of his Kingdom, and the Territories under his Obedience, as need ſhall require, that none may hereof pretend Cauſe of Ignorance.

Done at Paris *the 9th of* January, 1719.

Signed LOUIS.

And underneath, LE BLANC.

THE

THE MANIFESTO: OR, THE CAUSES OF RUPTURE BETWIXT *France* and *Spain*.

Printed at the King's Printing-house in *Paris*, 1719.

KINGS are not Accountable for their Proceedings to any but God himself, from whom they hold their Authority. Being indispensably oblig'd to seek the Welfare of their People, they are not to give any Reason for the Means they take for obtaining that End: And may, ac-

according as Prudence directs, either conceal, or make known the Myſteries of their Government. But when 'tis for their Glory, and the Tranquility of their People, which can't be ſeparated, that the Motives of their Reſolutions ſhould be known, they ought to act publickly in the Face of the World, and to manifeſt the Juſtice of what they have conſulted in private.

His Majeſty, govern'd by the Councils of the Duke of *Orleans*, his Regent, believes himſelf to be under this Engagement, and accounts it his Glory, to lay before his Subjects, and the whole World, his Reaſons for entring into new Alliances with ſeveral great Potentates for making a Peace throughout all *Europe*, for the particular Security of *France*, and even for that of *Spain*, who at preſent miſtaking her true Intereſts, diſturbs the common Tranquility by breaking the laſt Treaties.

His Majeſty can never impute this Breach to a Prince who is commendable for ſo many Virtues, and particularly for being a moſt religious Obſerver of his Word, ſo that it muſt be wholly owing to his Miniſters, who having engag'd him too eaſily, have found the Way to make him look upon this Engagement as an Argument, and a Neceſſity for ſtanding by it.

His

His Majesty, in the Measures he has taken, did propose to himself equally to answer two Duties, *viz*, the Love he owes to his People, by preventing a War which threaten'd all his Neighbours, and the Friendship which he owes to the King of *Spain*, by constantly taking Care of his Interests and Glory, which shall always be so much the more dear to *France*, as she looks upon them to be the Reward of her long Endeavours, and of all the Blood which it has cost her to maintain him on his Throne.

That these were his Majesty's uninterrupted Intentions, will appear evidently by the Facts hereafter mention'd.

'Tis known, that in the Course of the late War, *France* was reduc'd, by her Misfortunes, to the hard Necessity of consenting to recal the King of *Spain*, and must undoubtedly have had the Grief to perform it, if Providence, which changed Events and Hearts, had not prevented this piece of Injustice in our Enemies.

The Rights of the Catholick King were recogniz'd at *Utrecht*; but the Emperor, tho' abandon'd by his Allies, wou'd not then renounce his Pretensions, nor cou'd the taking of *Landau* and *Fribarg* bring him to it; and the late King of glorious Memory, who amidst his last Successes, was sen-

 sible

ſible of the extreme Neceſſity which his People had of Peace, did not conclude it, till after he had made Propoſals to the Emperor, at *Raſtad*, for an Accommodation betwixt him and the King of *Spain* *. 'Twas his conſtant View to complete his Work, and to ſtifle the Seeds of War which the Treaty of *Utrecht* had left in *Europe*, by regulating only proviſionally, and without the Emperor's Concurrence, the Intereſts of that Prince, and of the King of *Spain*.

His Deſign to cement the Peace by a Reconciliation betwixt thoſe two Princes was hinted at *Baden* † the 15th of *June*, 1714. to the Count *de Goes*, and communicated || the 7th of *September* following to Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, who aſſur'd that the Emperor was not averſe to it. After Signing the Treaty of *Baden*, the King order'd the Marſhal *de Villars* to purſue the ſame Object with § Prince *Eugene*, and when the Count *du Luc* was nam'd to be the King's Ambaſſador to the Emperor, he was par-

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* *Inſtruction for the Plenipotentiaries at the Congreſs of* Baden, 15th of April, 1714.

† *Letter from the Plenipotentiaries at* Baden *to the King, the* 15th of June, 1714.

|| *Letter from the Marſhal* de Villars *to the King, of the* 7th of September, 1714.

§ *The Memoir ſent by the King to the Marſhal* de Villars, September 23. 1714.

ticularly

ticularly charg'd by his Instructions to act according to those Views *.

The King of *Spain* had often represented to the late King by Letters of his own Hand-Writing, that his Condition was not secur'd by the Treaties of *Utrecht*: *You will easily judge*, said he in one of his Letters, dated *May* 16. 1713. *That the Peace, the Solidity of which is equally the Desire of all the World, cannot be firm, if the Arch-Duke, who has disputed the Crown of* Spain *with me, does not own me for its lawful King.*

You know, writes that Prince in his Letter of *Jan.* 31. 1714. *That I have fulfill'd all the Preliminaries, and that I am ready to consent that* Naples, *the* Milanese, *and the* Netherlands, *shall remain to the Arch-Duke, as I have consented to quit* Sicily *in favour of the Duke of* Savoy, *and* Gibraltar, *and the Isle of* Minorca *in favour of the* English, *and that I am also ready to quit* Sardinia *in favour of the Elector of* Bavaria. *The Arch-Duke ought on those Conditions to renounce to me what remains of the* Spanish *Monarchy. Thus neither he nor I shall have any Thing farther to pretend against one another.*

I flatter my self, says the King of *Spain*, in his Letter of *May* 17. 1714. *That knowing of what Importance it is to make the Arch-Duke*

* *Instructions for the Count* du Luc, *as going to* Vienna *the 3d of* January, 1715.

quit

quit all his Pretensions on Spain *and the* Indies, *you'll put me in a Capacity to establish such solid Conditions as I may peaceably enjoy them.*

That Prince did not think himself confirm'd on the Throne of *Spain* and the *Indies*, but by the Emperor's solemn Renunciation of all his Pretensions; and he insisted so pressingly on that Security, because he knew the Importance of it by the Extremities to which the War had reduc'd him on Account of the Emperor's Pretensions. This was also all that he demanded of the late King as the most sensible Pledge of his paternal Friendship, and as the last Effort with which he ought to crown all that *France* had done for his Interests. The late King endeavour'd with all the Affection of a tender Father, the Satisfaction of his Grandson. But as the Emperor appear'd unmoveable, and that there remain'd a Diffidence throughout *Europe*, it being the general Opinion that the Peace cou'd not be durable, which did still keep the greatest Part of the Powers in Arms; these Things, with the War in the North, and the Changes that happen'd in *Great Britain*, giving Occasion to fear that the Flames wou'd quickly be rekindled; there was still a necessity of taking new Measures for preventing it. It was during these Conjunctures the late King was taken from *France* by Death.

His

His Majesty will never forget the important and wholsome Advices which he gave him in the last Moments of his Life. He is willing to make them the *unalterable* Rule of his *Reign*; and by what follows it will be made evident that he has hitherto taken all his Steps accordingly.

The long Wars had left against us throughout *Europe* the Remains of an alienated Mind, and of a Hatred which only wanted an Opportunity to break out afresh; and our Neighbours being still full of the Jealousies and Fears which had been so often occasion'd by our Successes, and also because of our Resources under our greatest Misfortunes, were already contriving to complete our Ruin, and to improve the Minority of the King; and the Impoverishment of the Kingdom, of which we our selves made such loud Complaints, was enough to encourage our Enemies to undertake every Thing. The ancient League was threaten'd to be renew'd, and the Nations excited themselves mutually to War for the important End of securing themselves for ever from a Power too formidable, and which they endeavour'd still to render odious by unjust Reproaches of its Infidelity.

What better Method cou'd be taken to disperse that Storm, than to unite with that Power, which in concert with us, had

had restor'd Peace by the Treaty of *Utrecht*? The King neglected nothing for succeeding in this Design, and by his Care, a Confidence was re-establish'd betwixt the two Powers, and they were speedily satisfy'd that nothing cou'd more contribute to confirm a Peace which was not yet well establish'd, than a defensive Alliance betwixt *France*, *England*, and the Republick of the *United Provintes*, for maintaining the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, and for a mutual Guaranty of their Dominions. But before any Negociation was open'd, his Majesty gave Advice of his Design to the King of *Spain*. The Duke of St. *Aignan* had positive Orders, in *April* 1716. to acquaint him with his Views, to offer him all his Assistance, and to invite him into the Alliance, wherein he promis'd he shou'd be receiv'd with all the respect that he cou'd wish for.

After many fruitless Instances, the Duke of St. *Aignan*, upon presenting a new Memorial, receiv'd at last from Cardinal *Del Guidici*, an Answer fram'd in the Cabinet by another Minister, who at that time rul'd all, and whose Interpreter he only was on this Occasion. This Answer was as follows: *The King my Master having examin'd the Extract sent him, and the last Treaties sign'd at* Utrecht, *finds not any one Clause in them that needs to be confirm'd.*

How

How strange is the Contradiction betwixt this Answer, and the Letters that the King of *Spain* wrote to the late King, which were nothing but one continued and uneasy Representation of the Uncertainty of his State! His Majesty plainly perceiv'd, that the Principles of Reconciliation and Peace, which inspir'd him in his Proceedings, were not those which acted the Court of *Madrid*; and this was but too much confirm'd, by the Disturbance given to the Commerce of *France* already in *Spain*; by the Advices he had of Alliances forming with some Powers, under Pretext of a Misunderstanding ready to break out betwixt the two Nations, and by the secret Opposition which *Spain* made to our Alliance with the King of *Great Britain*, and the *States General*.

The King, however, thought fit to take no Notice of this; nor did he suffer it to lessen his Friendship, or Regard for the King of *Spain*; but patiently waiting the happy Moment, when he should come better to understand his own true Interest, he order'd it to be signify'd to him, That tho' he could no longer forbear the Concluding of the projected Alliance, yet he assur'd him, that he wou'd not therein Consent to any thing

that might be contrary to his Interests.

The Abbot *du Bois* was then sent to *Hanover*, to treat of that Affair with the King of *Great Britain*; and there the Articles were agreed on, which laid the Foundation of the Treaty of *Triple Alliance*, Sign'd at the *Hague*, the 4th of *January*, 1717, after that the King of *Great Britain* himself had in vain imparted this to the King of *Spain*, and was assur'd of the invincible Opposition of the *Spanish* Minister, to all Projects of Union.

But how favourable soever this Alliance was to the publick Tranquility, it did not make up what was wanting to perfect the Treaties of *Utrecht* and *Baden*, because the Differences between the Emperor, and the King of *Spain*, not having been there adjusted, *Europe* continu'd still under an Uncertainty, as to her Condition, and in Danger of being involv'd again in a new War, by the first Hostilities on one side or other. *Italy* alone had Reason to flatter herself with enjoying some Peace, by virtue of the Neutrality that had been establish'd there, by Treaties and Engagements, which were look'd upon as the first Step that cou'd conduce to the Peace: But tho' that

that Neutrality was truly a Law, to which both of these Princes had submitted themselves, the Welfare of *Europe* requir'd one more sure, and more solemn, that might be Authoris'd by the mutual Consent of the two Rivals, and maintain'd by such Guarantees, as it might not be in their Power to infringe with Impunity. Such a Law cou'd be no other than a Treaty of Peace, which might for ever determin the Controverſies betwixt the Emperor, and the King of *Spain*.

The King of *Great Britain* was willing to attempt the procuring so great a Benefit to *Europe*, and imparted it to his Majesty. He saw with Pleasure, the Intentions of the late King revive, and believ'd he shou'd act for a Prince, to whom he is strictly united by Ties of Blood, in favouring the Execution of whatever fatherly Tenderness had projected for him, and of every Thing that he himself had so positively, and instantly demanded. But his Majesty, who had already experienc'd, on diverse Occasions, that nothing which might convince the King of *Spain*, of his Friendship, found access to him, cou'd no longer doubt of it, when he saw that the Mar-

quis *de Louville*, whom he had sent to the King of *Spain*, to impart his true Sentiments, and to communicate to him Things of Importance to the two Crowns, was sent back without an Audience, notwithstanding his particular Attachment to the Person, and Glory of that Prince. Being thus too well informed by Experience, that every thing propos'd in his Name, was render'd suspected at *Madrid*, he requested the King of *Great Britain*, to act by himself, at *Vienna* and *Madrid*, for the Success of this great Design; and so much the rather, because he was not authoriz'd to Treat of the Interests of the King of *Spain*; and besides, it suited the Dignity of so great a Prince, to discuss them himself.

The King of *Great Britain* did, at the same time, impart his Views at *Vienna* and *Madrid*. They were receiv'd favourably enough at *Madrid*, so long as the Feint cou'd serve to conceal the Enterprizes they had in hand, and rejected afterwards with very little Discretion, when they thought it not their Interest to Dissemble any longer. The Court of *Vienna* had no Disposition to any Accommodation, but on Conditions, that *Sicily*, which till then had been an insurmountable Obstacle to a Reconciliation, shou'd

shou'd be restor'd to the Emperor, because he judg'd it absolutely necessary for the Preservation of the Kingdom of *Naples*. But then it was hop'd, that on this Condition, the Catholick King shou'd be own'd by the Emperor, as lawful Possessor of *Spain* and the *Indies*. And farther, which was a new Advantage to him, that the Emperor should consent, that the Successions of *Parma* and *Piacenza*, shou'd be ascertain'd to the Queen of *Spain*'s Children.

The Difficulties of this Negotiation, were not to be prejudicial to the Neutrality of *Italy*, establish'd by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, the 14th of *March*, 1713, and renew'd and confirm'd by that of *Baden*. The Emperor, and the King of *Spain*, seem'd, of themselves, to have taken Precautions for assuring themselves, that it should not be interrupted. The King of *Spain* had taken Care, before the War of *Hungary*, to put the King of *Great Britain*, in remembrance that he was Guarantee of the Engagements enter'd into at *Utrecht*, for the Neutrality of *Italy*. And the Emperor, on his side, when the *Turks* took the Field, engag'd the *Pope*, to demand a positive Assurance from the King of *Spain*, that he would not take Advantage of the War

which

the *Turks* had declar'd against him. It was the King of *Spain*'s Interest to make this Promise; for he had been inform'd by the King of *Great Britain*, of the Treaty concluded at *London*, *May*, 25. 1716, betwixt the Emperor and that Prince, for a Guaranty of the Emperor's Dominions in *Italy*, and of an expreſs Promiſe to aſſiſt him, in caſe they were attack'd. In ſhort the well-known Piety of the King of *Spain*, was look'd upon as a greater Aſſurance than his Intereſt.

It could not then be ſuſpected, that the King of *Spain*, who was fully inform'd of the Treaties of 1716, would run the Riſque of the ſaid Treaty with the King of *Great Britain*, by attacking the Emperor in *Italy*; and, at the ſame time, by acting contrary to his own Intereſt, and his Zeal for Religion. Nevertheleſs, that Enterprize broke out, and we were inform'd, that an Armament rais'd by Funds upon Eccleſiaſtical Benefices, and deſign'd to maintain the Glory of the Chriſtian Name, was to be made uſe of for Breach of the Treaties. There needs no greater Proof, that the pernicious Counſels, and the exorbitant Power of the Miniſter, prevail'd in *Spain* over the Intentions and Virtues of their King.

His

His Majesty allarm'd at such a dangerous Step, sent immediately an Express to the D. of *St. Aignan*, and charg'd him to represent, in the strongest Terms to the K. of *Spain*, the Dangers to which he expos'd himself, and what ought to have made greater Impression upon him, to represent the Injustice of his Enterprize. He pray'd him, for the common Tranquidity of Europe, and for his Personal Interests, to resume the Views of Reconciliation, which the late King his Grandfather, and, after him, the King of *Great-Britain*, had already Projected, betwixt him and the Emperor. Some Days after, he again order'd the D. of *St. Aignan* to act in concert with the Minister of *England*, who had receiv'd the like Orders for engaging the King of *Spain* to Authorize his Ambassador at *London*, or to send another Minister thither to Treat of the Means for re-establishing a solid Peace. Coll. *Stanhope* had just then arriv'd at *Madrid*, with a more particular Charge to make the same Instances. The King of *Great-Britain* signify'd to his Majesty at the same time, that as the Disease was pressing, no Time was to be lost in applying Remedies, which cou'd not be had from any thing else, but an unanimous Concert of impartial Powers; and therefore

fore pray'd him to send an Ambassador to *London*, whither upon his Instances the Emperor had already consented to send a Minister. His Majesty sent thither the *Abbot du Bois*; and being as attentive to the Interests of the King of *Spain*, as to those of his own Kingdom, he thought himself oblig'd to have a Minister at the Conference in *London*, who might present to the King of *Spain*, a Liberty to enter into the Negotiation, as soon as they should be able to make him understand his own Interest. But all those redoubled Instances to him were in vain. In vain did they give him ground to hope that they should obtain for him from the Emperor, what he himself had so frequently demanded. Nothing was receiv'd from his Minister, but obstinate Refusals, and even frequent Threats to kindle a general War, notwithstanding all the Measures which were taken to prevent it. *Spain* seem'd to look upon those unanimous Sentiments of the other Powers for Peace, to be a Conspiracy against her.

It was upon these Refusals, and upon these threatning Designs of *Spain*, that the King of *Great-Britain* caus'd it to be represented to his Majesty, that it was absolutely necessary to put a Stop to their

Effects;

Effects; and that no other Method offer'd it self to the Prudence of the Impartial Powers, but to Form a Plan, which might be propos'd to the two Princes, for reconciling their Interests, and procuring, at any Rate, their own Tranquility, and that of all *Europe*. This Resolution being, on the one Hand, favourable for strengthning the Peace, which was his Majesty's unchangeable Design, and on the other, giving Time and Means to the King of *Spain*, for taking Resolutions conformable to his Interest, the King fell in with it. But, in his Orders to the *Abbot du Bois*, for entring into so necessary a Project, his Majesty recommended to him, nothing so much, as always to reject whatever might delay, or hinder the King of *Spain* from concurring in this Negotiation. What Difficulties had not the King of *Great Britain* to struggle with, in order to dissuade the Emperor from insisting on his Pretensions to *Spain* and the *Indies*; to overcome his Aversion to see, one Day the Dominions, of *Parma* and *Tuscany* possess'd by a Prince of the House of *Spain*, and to soften his Resentments for the Infraction of Treaties, as to which he thought himself entitl'd to take Vengeance. It was not without an infinite deal of Trouble, yet those Obstacles

were gradually remov'd, especially when greater Advantages were propos'd for the King of *Spain*, than were given him by the Treaties of *Utrecht*, and, by Consequence, as we have seen by his Letters, even beyond what he himself had desir'd.

Thus was form'd at *London* the Plan of the Conditions, which were to lay the Foundation of a solid Peace, betwixt the Emperor and the King of *Spain*: His Majesty's perfect Friendship for that Prince, was always signaliz'd, by the uninterrupted Instances he made to him to send Ministers, who might discuss his Interests, by the Means which he had procur'd for him to enter into the Negotiation, and by his constant Efforts to procure him new Advantages in the Treaty it self. But, not content with these Steps, he push'd his Attention and Regard towards him further. He sent the Marquis *de Nancre* to the King of *Spain*, to impart to him the Plan form'd at *London*, while the King of *Great-Britain* did the like to the Emperor.

His Majesty, during the stay of the Marquis *de Nancre* at *Madrid*, for the first five Months, did without ceasing represent to the King of *Spain*, that it was equally his Interest, and Glory, to abandon an unjust Enterprize, and to accept the Conditions,

Conditions, which he had, so to speak, dictated himself, by his Instances to the late King. In short, and he reckons it his Glory to say it, he demanded the Peace of *Europe* from him in the Name of *France* which had maintain'd him on the Throne, by so much Expence of Blood and Treasure, and in the Name of his own Subjects, whose Zeal and Attachment to him, which is, perhaps, without Example, did very well deserve from their Prince, that he should not deliver them up to the Horrors of War.

All those Instances, founded on the wise Conditions of the Plan, never drew but one Confession from the Minister of *Spain*, of the Danger to which she was going to expose her self, by resisting so many Powers; but he said, at the same Time, *That his Master would never give over his Enterprize*, and he was not asham'd to lay upon him the Blame of his own Obstinacy. In fine, his Majesty caus'd it to be signify'd to him in *June* last, That the Love which he ow'd to his People, and ought to prevail over all other Sentiments, wou'd not suffer him any longer to delay the Signing of the Treaty with the Emperor and the King of *Great Britain*. He likewise took notice of the King of *Great Britain's* Engagement, to send a Squadron into the *Mediterranean*, for assisting the

Emperor. But nothing cou'd move the Miniſter, who was more and more Provok'd by the Inſtances for Peace, and threaten'd to put all *Europe* in Flames. At laſt, Sir *George Bing*, who Commanded the King of *Great Britain's* Naval Force, deſign'd for the *Mediterranean*, did, before he enter'd that Sea, give Advice to the Miniſter of *Spain*, of the poſitive Orders he had receiv'd to act as a Friend, if *Spain* wou'd give over, or ſuſpend her Enterprizes againſt the Neutrality of *Italy*; and to Oppoſe her with all his Force if ſhe perſiſted in the contrary: But the Miniſter leaving no further Grounds of Hope, anſwer'd, *That he might, if he pleas'd, put the Orders, with which he was charg'd, in Execution.*

The War betwixt the Emperor and the Turks, was then at an End, and Orders already given to march great Numbers of Troops into *Italy*. His Majeſty forc'd, at laſt, by theſe Circumſtances, delay'd no longer to agree with the King of *Great Britain*, upon the Terms which might lay a Foundation for a Peace betwixt the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, and betwixt the former and the King of *Sicily*. And thoſe were the Conditions of the Treaty ſign'd at *London* the 2d of *Auguſt* laſt, betwixt the Miniſters of the King,

the

the Emperor, and the King of *Great Britain*.

But the King of *Great Britain*, always conducted by a Spirit of Reconciliation and Peace, and being also desirous to prevent any Misunderstanding that might arise betwixt his Crown and *Spain*, on occasion of the Succours that he was oblig'd to grant the Emperor, thought fit still to make one Effort more with the King of *Spain*; he sent Earl *Stanhope*, one of his Chief Ministers, to his Majesty, with Orders to pass from thence to *Madrid*, if his Majesty found it convenient.

'Twas, during his stay at *Paris*, that we had the News of the Invasion of *Sicily* by the King of *Spain*'s Troops, which hasten'd the Earl *Stanhope*'s Journey to *Madrid*. He arriv'd there the beginning of *August* last, and the Marquis *de Nancre* receiv'd new Orders to act in Concert with him. But the lively Representations, redoubled by both, as to the Extremities to which the Catholick King's Inflexibility might bring Things, the Assurance which they gave him for all that he possess'd by the Emperor's Renunciation, and by the Guaranty of the Contracting Powers; his Majesty's Promise to procure him the Restoration of *Gibraltar*, which so sensibly touches the whole *Spanish* Nation,

tion, and which her King has ſo earneſtly deſir'd of a long Time; † In fine, the Declaration of the Engagement enter'd into at *London*, and of the Neceſſity under which his Majeſty and the King of *Great Britain* found themſelves to execute the ſame immediately after the expiration of the three Months, from the Day the Treaty was Sign'd at *London*, were all to no purpoſe. The Earl *Stanhope* left *Madrid* with Grief, to ſee that all the good Offices, and Care of his Maſter to prevent a Declaration againſt *Spain*, were of no Effect. But he had this Satisfaction, at leaſt, that nothing had been left undone, to conquer the Obſtinacy of the Miniſter, who alone was the Cauſe of the Rupture, and of the Calamities which ſhou'd follow upon it. In the mean time, the Marquiſs *de Nancre* had Orders to ſtay there, becauſe the King was willing to liſten to the leaſt Hopes which the Miniſter had the Art to Inſinuate for gaining Time. But his Majeſty found, at laſt, that all his Condeſcention had been in Vain. A few Days after he was inform'd of the Violence committed upon the Perſons and Effects of the *Engliſh* in *Spain*, contrary to the 18th

† Letter from the King of *Spain*, to the late King *April* 22, 1712.

Article

Article of the Treaty of *Utrecht*, betwixt *Spain* and *England*, which fixes the Term of Six Months to withdraw the Persons and Effects on both sides, in case of a Rupture.

The Marquis *de Nancre* having left the Court of *Spain*, his Majesty, according to the Treaty of *London*, order'd the D. *De St. Aignan*, to Complain of the Violence committed against the *English*, and commanded him to declare, That the Term of three Months granted the King of *Spain*, for accepting the Conditions that were reserv'd to him, being to expire the Second of *November*, he cou'd not but demand a decisive Answer from that Prince; and the King of *Spain* persisting in his Refusal, he took his Audience of Leave.

Hitherto we have only spoke in general of the Conditions reserv'd to the King of *Spain*: But we must exhibite them more particularly, the better to convince the World, not only of the common Advantage, but also of the particular Advantage resulting from them to that Prince.

First, The Emperor expresly Renounces for himself, his Heirs, Descendants, and Successors, Male and Female, the *Spanish* Monarchy and the *Indies*, and all the Dominions of which the King of *Spain*

was

was own'd to be lawful Poſſeſſor by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, and he engages himſelf to paſs the neceſſary Acts of Renunciation in the beſt Form.

Secondly, The Succeſſions to the Dominions of the D. of *Parma*, and the great Duke of *Tuſcany*, being like to occaſion great Debates, and a new War in *Italy*, becauſe the Queen of *Spain* pretends a Right to them by her Birth, and that the Emperor maintains, that the Right to diſpoſe of 'em, for want of Heirs Male, appertains to Him and the Empire, it has been ſtipulated, that theſe Succeſſions coming to be Vacant, by the Death of the Princes, now in Poſſeſſion without Heirs Male, the Son of the Queen, and his Male Iſſue, and on failure thereof, the ſecond Son, and the other younger Sons of the ſaid Queen, with their Male Deſcendants ſhall ſucceed to all the ſaid Dominions, which ſhall be found to be Male, moving Fiefs of the Empire; and that Letters of Expectation, containing the eventual Inveſtiture of them, ſhall be given to the Son of the Queen, who ought to ſucceed. And for Security of the Execution of this Diſpoſition, Gariſon ſhall be eſtabliſh'd by the *Swiſs Cantons* in the principal Places of thoſe Dominions, *viz.* at *Leghorn*, *Porto Ferrajo*, *Parma*, and *Placentia*,

in the Pay of the Mediators, with an Oath, to keep and defend them under the Authority of the Princes now reigning, and to put them in Poſſeſſion of no body, but the Prince, Son to the Queen of *Spain*, when theſe Succeſſions come to be vacant.

Thirdly, It has been ſtipulated, that the Emperor, or any other Prince of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, who ſhall poſſeſs the Kingdom's Provinces and Dominions of *Italy*, ſhall never, in any Caſe, appropriate to themſelves the Dominions of *Tuſcany* and *Parma*.

Fourthly, As it was not poſſible to engage the Emperor to deſiſt from the Pretenſions which he has always reſerv'd to himſelf upon *Sicily*, it has been agreed, that it ſhall be quitted to that Prince, who, on his part, ſhall quit to the King of *Sicily*, by way of Equivalent, the Kingdom of *Sardinia*, reſerving to the King of *Spain*, the Right of Reverſion of that Kingdom to his Crown, as he reſerv'd it to himſelf for *Sicily* by the Act of Ceſſion which he made of it, in conſequence of the Treaties of *Utrecht*.

Fifthly, There is left to the King of *Spain*, a Term of three Months, from the Day of ſigning the Treaty, for accepting the Conditions offer'd him, which all the contracting Parties have Guaranteed and Engaged themſelves to ſee executed.

Sixthly, As it would not be juſt, that the Peace of *Europe* ſhould depend on the Obſtinacy or particular Views of one or two Powers only, and that the Emperor might not be induced to deliver his Renunciation, before the King of *Spain* ſhould come into the Treaty, if he had not ſome other Security given him beſides; the contracting Parties have agreed to join their Forces to oblige the refuſing Prince to accept the Peace, agreeable to what has been frequently practis'd for the publick Repoſe, on important Occaſions.

Seventhly, 'Tis expreſly agreed, That if the contracting Powers be oblig'd to make uſe of Force againſt him who refuſes to accept the propoſed Accommodation, the Emperor ſhall content himſelf with the Advantages ſtipulated for him in the Treaties, how Succeſsful ſoever his Arms may be.

Eightly,

Eighthly, In the last Place, The King has engag'd himself to obtain for the King of *Spain*, the Restitution of *Gibraltar*.

These are the Conditions which the Minister of *Spain* so haughtily rejected. They are, however, so well accommodated to the common Tranquility, that the King of *Sicily*, who by the Inequality betwixt *Sicily* and *Sardinia*, seems to be the only Prince who loses by this Plan, has lately accepted the Treaty.

A plain and sincere Narrative of these Facts, is enough to enable the World to judge what part *France* ought to have taken in such Conjunctures.

The King of *Spain* attacks *Sardinia*, and takes as much Care to conceal his Design from the King as from the Emperor. After this Infraction of Treaties, and after the Emperor's Declaration, that he will agree to accommodate Matters, what could his Majesty do?

By continuing Neuter, he would have equally displeas'd and alienated the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, and in the Progress of the War, a Power so considerable as *France* could not have acted an indifferent Part.

If he had join'd with *Spain*, his Majesty would thereby have violated the

Treaty of *Baden*, and given the Emperor a Right to declare War against him, which he muſt have maintain'd in *Italy*, upon the *Rhine*, and in the *Netherlands*. Further, the Emperor would have arm'd againſt him all his Confederates, or rather all *Europe*, which muſt have been alarm'd at the Conjunction of the Forces of *France* and *Spain*. Thus *France* ſhould have found herſelf involv'd again in the Calamities of a General War.

If the King had found no other Means to prevent thoſe Calamities but to enter into an Alliance with the King of *Spain*'s Enemy, for executing the greateſt Rigours againſt him, however dolorous this Method might have been to his Majeſty, it would have been neither the leſs Juſt nor leſs Neceſſary. The Safety of the People, which is the only thing that ought to Command Sovereigns, would have forc'd him to embrace it; and the Example of the late King himſelf, who made all his Paternal Affection give way to that Duty, would as ſtrongly forbid his Succeſſor to ſacrifice it to the Rights of Blood. But how far different from that, is the part which the King has choſen? He Leagues with the Emperor, but it is by offering, at the ſame time, to the King of *Spain*, even that Enemy, and

the reſt of the greateſt Powers of *Europe* for Allies, whenever he pleaſes to accept them. It is by confirming him on his Throne, his Poſſeſſion of which will then become uncontrovertible; it is by procuring him all that he ever deſir'd, and more than he hop'd for, and to all *Europe* a ſolid and durable Peace.

The new Enterprize of the King of *Spain* upon *Sicily*, ſufficiently ſhews, that tho' we ſhould have contented our ſelves with reſtoring only the Neutrality of *Italy*, he would not have conſented to it, and that we ſhould have had as much trouble to make him reſtore *Sardinia* to the Emperor, as we can have to ſee the whole Treaty put in Execution. In ſhort, what cou'd have been done even by the Succeſs of the *Spaniards* there? for that could never have annull'd the Emperor's Pretenſions to *Sicily*, but only made him ſuſpend his Enterprizes for ſome time.

His Majeſty then had no other way left for preventing the War, but to purſue the Project of Accommodation betwixt the Emperor and the King of *Spain*, and thereby to give Peace to *France*, *Italy*, nay, to *Europe*, without coſting *France* any thing elſe but honourable Offices; nor does it coſt *Italy* any thing but the

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Advantage which the Emperor has by the Exchange of *Sicily* for *Sardinia*, which is counter-ballanc'd by the Bounds which the Emperor prescribes to himself in the Treaty, and by the Engagements which the principal Powers of *Europe* have enter'd into to Guarantee the Possessions of the other Princes of *Italy* in the same State as they are at present.

Spain is so far then from having just Cause to complain of the King for undertaking at this Time a most just War, to avoid one that is the most dangerous, and most ruinous for his Subjects: That the King has just Cause to complain of *Spain*, for reducing him to this Extremity by an obstinate Refusal of Peace, under such frivolous Pretexts as no Body has been hitherto capable of understanding.

Sometimes 'tis a Point of Honour, founded on this, that the Successions of *Parma* and *Tuscany* are agreed to only as Fiefs of the Empire. But how can we believe that the King of *Spain* shou'd be offended at a Condition for a Prince of his Family, which so many Kings of *Spain* and *France* have not only submitted to, but even courted; and in the last Place, the late King, his glorious Grandfather, and the King of *Spain* himself?

Some-

Sometimes it is the Inequality betwixt the Reversion of *Sardinia* and that of *Sicily*; but can such a small, such an uncertain, and so remote a Disadvantage, be put in the Ballance against so many present and solid Advantages? In fine, what ought to decide the Matter is this, That we cou'd no otherwise obtain the Emperor's Renunciation to *Spain* and the *Indies*, but upon this Consideration. Ought the Surety of the King of *Spain*'s Condition to be compar'd with such trifling Difficulties? and does not so great an Interest make all the rest to vanish?

Sometimes 'tis the Pretext of a Ballance that is absolutely necessary in *Italy*, and which we are about to overturn by adding *Sicily* to the other Dominions which the Emperor possesses there. But does the Desire of a more perfect Ballance deserve, that we should re-involve our People in the Calamities of a War from which they have so much Difficulty to recover themselves? And is not even this Ballance, the want of which *Spain* seems to regret, sufficiently secur'd, and more completely, perhaps, than if *Sicily* had continu'd in the House of *Savoy*? The Establishing of a Prince of the House of *Spain* in the middle of the Dominions of *Italy*, the Bounds which the Emperor has prescrib'd to himself by the Treaty,

Treaty, the Guaranty of so many Powers, the unchangeable Interests of *France*, *Spain*, and *Great Britain*, maintain'd by their Maritime Power; do so many Securities leave room to bewail the want of another Equilibrium? If at the Time of the Peace of *Utrecht* the Imperial Arms had been possess'd of *Sicily*, as they were of the Kingdom of *Naples*, the King of *Spain* wou'd not have made any Difficulty to consent to this Disposition; and the Minister of *Spain* himself made no scruple to say, That the King his Master had never reckon'd on his keeping of *Sicily* †, and that if he made a Conquest of it, he wou'd be induc'd, since all *Europe* wou'd have it so, to restore it even to the Emperor?

The true Motives of this Refusal, which have hitherto been impenetrable, come at last to break out. The Letters of the *Spanish* Ambassador to Cardinal *Alberoni* have taken off the Veil which cover'd 'em, and we now see with Horror what it was that made the Minister of *Spain* inaccessible to all Projects of Peace. He wou'd thereby have seen all the odious Plots which he form'd against us prove abortive. He wou'd have lost all Hopes of laying this Kingdom desolate, of raising up

† *Letter from the Marquis de Nancre of Sept. 26. 1718.*

France

[illegible] having the Ma-
[illegible] Orders
[illegible] is like,
[illegible] Heaven,
by [illegible] those seditious
[illegible] *Mine which was*,
according to the Words of the Ambassa-
dor's Letter, to [illegible] *a Prelude to the*
Conference. [illegible] a Recompence is
this [illegible], for the Treasures and
Blood [illegible] has been so profuse for
the [illegible]

[illegible] has kept off those Calami-
ties [illegible], on the Dis-
cove[illegible] Treason prepared against us,
[illegible] revenge in-
[illegible] only the Inte-
rest [illegible] and not his own Pas-
sions. [illegible] only takes Arms now to pro-
cure a [illegible] without sacrificing any Thing
of his [illegible] for Princes, who
without doubt must desire those perfidi-
ous Traitors that were then against us.
Happy [illegible] it have been, You'd his Vir-
tues [illegible] against being
[illegible] by his [illegible] and if by pati-
[illegible] Conditions [illegible] for ever,
he [illegible] to his own Word, and con-
fulted his Justice and Religion, which do
all of them solicite for Peace.

A Postscript by Cardinal Alberoni to the Prince de Cellamare, join'd to one of his Letters to that Ambassador, of Dec. 14. 1718.

Whatever Advices you receive as to what has pass'd here with respect to the Duke of St. *Aignan*, it ought not, in any manner, to be an Example for using the like towards your Excellency. It was necessary for us to take this Course with him, because he had taken his Leave; besides he had no further Character, and because of his ill Conduct. Your Excellency will continue firmly resolv'd to stay at *Paris*, and not to Leave it till otherwise [illegible]. In that Case, you must [illegible] having made the requisite Protestations to the most Christian King, to the Parliament, and to all others whom it may concern, against the Violence which the Government of *France* exercises against your Excellency's Person and Character.

Supposing [illegible] all the part, the Fire [illegible]

PARIS